

ESCAMBIA-PENSACOLA AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

August 01, 2023

The Escambia-Pensacola Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) held a regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Whibbs Conference Room, 1st Floor of Pensacola City Hall, 222 West Main Street, Pensacola, Florida on August 01, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

Committee members present: Ed Brown, Laura Gilmore, Brenton Goodman, Deborah Mays, Maya Moss, Crystal Scott, and Pensacola City Council President Delarian Wiggins (virtual)

Committee members absent: Escambia County Commissioner Lumon May, and Paul Ritz (excused)

Staff members present: Timothy Evans, Escambia County Neighborhood Enterprise Division (NED); Clara Long, Escambia County Neighborhood and Human Services Department Director; Marcie Whitaker, Director of City of Pensacola Housing Department, Tracy Pickens, City of Pensacola Housing Department

Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call

Chairwoman Crystal Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The Chair recognized the presence of a quorum for the meeting. She also stated that Paul Ritz had requested his absence from the August monthly meeting be excused, and the Chair asked for such a motion. Laura Gilmore made the motion to excuse the absence of Paul Ritz. The motion was seconded by Brenton Goodman and was passed unanimously.

The Chair asked for confirmation that appropriate public notice had been made in advance of the day's meeting. Mrs. Whitaker confirmed publication on the City of Pensacola website. Mr. Evans also confirmed publication on the County's website, as well as the Sun Press news publication.

Next the Chair asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the July meeting. Laura Gilmore made the motion, and it was seconded by Deborah Mays. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Tim Evans stated that the County Commission has requested that the staff of the Neighborhood Enterprise Division review applications submitted of those interested in serving on the AHAC and provide more detailed information to the Commissioners at an August meeting for confirming new member(s).
2. Mr. Evans also confirmed that the County was working diligently to comply with the State's requirement for making a list of potential property for affordable development available for public review by October (from the **Live Local** Act). The review involves several County Departments to sort through and review and refine the list before it's made final. There was a question asked about what makes a parcel 'appropriate' for affordable housing. Clara Long responded, stating if the property is not needed by any Department of the County, is large enough to accommodate a housing unit, and is accessible (not 'land locked'), that it would be deemed appropriate for development. There was a request for the County's Assistant Administrator who is over Property/Real Estate for the County be invited to a future meeting.
3. Evans then relayed that, following some conversation between the Neighborhood and Human Services Department of the County and the Development Services Department regarding the County's consideration of accepting 'Appendix Q' into the County's Land Development Code (LDC). The issue had been presented to the BCC previously but did not have sufficient support

of the Commission to be accepted. Development Services stated that they do not currently have plans to reintroduce the issue to the Commission.

New Business

1. Moving to New Business, Marcie Whitaker stated that the next City Council meeting will confirm the appointment of City Council member to serve on the AHAC.
2. She also had distributed a listing of the City's available Property for affordable housing development. The parcels which the City has identified, in compliance with SB102 requirements are 113 N. Spring Street, 900 Block of West Blount Street, and the 2700 Block of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. The City's list is prospective, as it has not yet been approved by the City Council. A motion to approve the City's list of available property was made by Laura Gilmore and seconded by Brenton Goodman. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Lastly, Mrs. Whitaker announced that at the next AHAC meeting we anticipate as guest speaker, Mr. Kody Glazer, General Counsel for the Florida Housing Coalition. He will speak to, and answer questions regarding Community Land Trusts, the recently enacted **Live Local** Act, as well as general questions about the services and support available from the Florida Housing Coalition. She encouraged Committee members to come with questions. In anticipation of an information filled meeting, Ed Brown made a motion to extend the September meeting from 60 minutes to 90 minutes, to maximize the benefit of the visit of Mr. Glazer. Deborah Mays seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

Public Comment

Sam Young, the CEO of Pensacola Habitat for Humanity rose for public comment. He stated his frustration over the County's process for accessing property and anticipated that through compliance with the **Live Local** Act many of the issues which currently cloud the process will be readdressed. He also recognized Commissioner May of County Commission District 3 for his commitment to address the need for affordable/attainable housing throughout the County.

Announcements

The Chair thanked the Committee members for their dedication to the work of the Advisory Committee. Marcie Whitaker reminded everyone that the meeting next month will have a Subject Matter Expert available in Kody Glazer. The Committee should make the most of the opportunity to get answers to questions focused on the legal issues of affordable housing development within the State of Florida, including the new **Live Local** Act.

Adjournment:

There being no further speakers, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by Timothy Evans